# PUBLIC LIBRARY C O N N E C T I O N

A Sunnyvale Library Newsletter Exclusively for Teachers

### Sunnyvale's Library of the Future

The Sunnyvale City Council has authorized a study of library services that the citizens desire now and in the future and what facilities would be needed to deliver those services. Input from educators is important to this process. Please share your ideas with us by visiting the library's home page at www.sunnyvalelibrary.org and clicking on the link to Library of the Future.



# Live Homework Help Available through the Library

Help! It's 8:30 at night and your student has been struggling with a math problem, an English essay, or a scientific concept for hours. What to do? The student can turn to a home computer, visit the Sunnyvale Public Library's Web site at www.sunnyvalelibrary.org and click on the link for Live Homework Help. He or she will be matched with an online tutor who is well-versed in the subject he is working on and at the appropriate level. The student and tutor will communicate online through live chat, file-sharing and white-board



technology. There are some technical requirements for computers to access this service. Most critical are the need for a PC running Windows XP or Windows 2000, the Internet Web Explorer 6 Web browser, and Adobe's Macromedia Flash version 8 or higher. Live Homework Help is available remotely from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. 7 days a week. Help is also available in Spanish Sunday-Thursday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Within the library, librarians at the Children's or Adult Information Desks can help students access Live Homework Help on library computers. Live Homework Help is appropriate for students in 4th grade and up. If you would like a librarian from the Sunnyvale Public Library to visit your school to demonstrate this wonderful new resource, please call the Children's Desk at (408) 730-7292. The Sunnyvale Public Library is able to offer this service through a grant received from the California State Library.

# **Tips for Teachers**

The Sunnyvale Public Library staff wants to be part of a great school year for you and your students. You can help us fulfill that goal and help your students have successful trips to the library. Below are some tips that teachers have found useful as they prepare assignments for their students.

 Visit the library or the library's online catalog so you are aware

- of the type and quantity of the materials in the library's collection that will support the assignment.
- Notify the library in advance of major assignments by telephone (408-730-7292), or e-mail (childref@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us).
- Give your students a print copy of assignments.
- Allow some flexibility in the number of pages required for a book so that your students will have a wider range of choices.
- If you prepare a summer reading list for students, send a copy to us by early May so that we can be prepared with extra copies of the titles you are requiring.





# PUBLIC LIBRARY CONNECTION

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## **Field Trips to** the Library

A visit to the public library can be an eye-opening experience for students of any age. Young children are often amazed by "all those books," or because the librarian helps them to find just the right book. Older students can be empowered by learning to use the library's online catalog or databases, which are available from home or school as well as in the library. Students can also learn about all the fun programs and activities offered year-round at the Library. Schedule a field trip for your class by calling (408) 730-7292. A librarian can help you to plan a visit to suit your students' needs. Visits usually include an age-appropriate tour and information about the library, stories or book talks, and suggestions for using library resources. If your class is working on a special project, librarians can include information on relevant materials. We hope to see you at the library!

#### Sunnyvale Public Library

665 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086

#### **Library Hours**

Monday-Thursday 10am-9nm Friday & Saturday 10am-6pm 12pm-8pm Sunday Book and media drops are located outside the Library for after-hours returns.

#### Telephone Numbers

Area Code Borrowers' Records (408) 730-2748 Children's & Teen Services (408) 730-7292 Deaf Access: TDD/TYY (408) 730-7501 (408) 730-7333 Dial-A-Story (English) Dial-A-Story (Spanish) (408) 737-4907 Information & Reference (408) 730-7300 Library Cards (408) 730-2748 Library Administration (408) 730-7316 Overdue Materials (408) 730-7309 Renewals (Automated) (408) 730-7310 Special Outreach Services (408) 730-7306

#### Library Web Site

www.sunnyvalelibrary.org

# The Most Important Card You'll **Ever Carry**

Sunnyvale Library

Better than American Express and right up there with your medical insurance card is your library card,

which allows you access to books, magazines, newspapers, DVDs, audio books, on-line databases, and other information available both in the library and from your home computer. Sunnyvale Public Library cards are free to any resident of California who can show proof of a current address. If you would like to encourage your students to obtain

library cards, we can mail applications (in English and/or Spanish) to your school. Parents of students under 13 must fill out and sign the application.

> We ask you to verify with the school office that the address given on the application is correct. If you would like the students to receive their library cards in conjunction with a field trip to the library, the applications must be turned in to the Children's Information Desk one week prior to the visit.

# **Deep Web Revealed through the Public Library**

The term "deep web" refers to pages on the World Wide Web that are not part of the surface web; that is, pages that are indexed by common search engines. The deep web includes pages that are not linked to by other sites and sites that require registration or otherwise limit access to their pages. It has been estimated that the deep web is several magnitudes larger that the surface web.

Because the library pays for subscriptions to a number of these sites, library patrons are able to find valuable information in a wide variety of disciplines. Some of these sites require entering a Sunnyvale Library card number for access.

Several sites allow retrieval of magazine and newspaper articles. Others provide access to reference material in biography, literature, history, genealogy, businesses and health topics. The Learning Express Library allows students and adults to practice taking tests for academics and job searching. CollegeSource accesses college and university catalogs. Informé is a Spanish language magazine and newspaper database. Student Resource Center includes curriculum-related reference material and newspaper and magazine articles. All of this information is available to you and your students through the Sunnyvale Public Library's Web site, www.sunnyvalelibrary.org. Click on the link to online databases and explore the wonders of the deep web!